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Honorable Clinton P. Anderson
Chairman, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
Congress of the United States
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Department of Defense recently proposed an amendment to Section 143 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, which has been referred to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. This amendment was submitted with the concurrence of the Atomic Energy Commission, the Central Intelligence Agency and other interested agencies, and its transmittal to the Congress was approved by the Bureau of the Budget.

The effect of this amendment would be to permit the exchange of Restricted Data between "Q" cleared personnel of the Government and personnel of the Department of Defense who are not "Q" cleared, but who have been authorized access to restricted data under the certification process provided for under the present language of Section 143. Under the present language of that section, the exchange of restricted data may only take place between "Q" cleared personnel of the Atomic Energy Commission or of its contractors or licensees and certified personnel of the Department of Defense.

I am writing to express the deep interest of this Agency in the amendment which has been proposed by the Department of Defense. Under the present language and interpretation of Section 143, "Q" cleared personnel of this Agency are not permitted to exchange restricted data with certified personnel of the Department of Defense. This is causing serious administrative problems. As you know, a large number of employees of this Agency are "Q" cleared, and must deal on a daily basis with representatives of other agencies who are authorized access to restricted data. It is impossible, however, for

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our employees to exchange such data directly with Department of Defense personnel unless the latter have also been Q cleared. The Department of Defense, under the existing authority of Section 143, is using the certification process almost exclusively, in lieu of Q clearances. Thus the problem of the exchange of restricted data is becoming more acute every day, as the number of Q cleared Department of Defense personnel with which this Agency can deal becomes smaller and smaller.

The enactment of the amendment proposed by the Department of Defense would solve this problem insofar as this Agency is concerned, and would be of immeasurable assistance to us in carrying out our responsibilities relative to intelligence in the atomic energy field. I strongly urge that favorable action be taken on this amendment during the present Session of the 84th Congress.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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IC:WPA:WPA:WPA (10 July 56)
Orig. & 1 - Addressee
2 - Signer
1 - AD/SI
1 - Deputy Dir. of Security
1 - General Counsel
1 - Legislative Counsel